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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/647,392	08/26/2003	Jun Okazaki	04329.3118	2035
22852 7590 05/04/2007 FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413			EXAMINER CLOUD, JOIYA M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2144	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			05/04/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/647,392

Applicant(s)

OKAZAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Joiya M. Cloud

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 February 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 13-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 13-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 May 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/14/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the application filed on August 26, 2003. Claims 1-11 represent Network Device and Method.
2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 13-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. **Claims 1 and 13-15**, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hattig (U.S. Patent No. 6775244 B1).

As per claim 1, Hattig teaches a network device comprising: a first connection section (**Figure 1, item 20, where the first connection section is the bus 1394 interface configured to connect to the Office network**) configured to be connected to a first network (**Figure 1, item 16**); a second connection section (**Figure 1, item 19, where the second connection section is**

the bus 1394 interface configured to connect to the Bedroom network) (Figure 1, item 14) configured to be connected to a second network different from the first network;

a quantity detection section (**within the discovery information**) configured to detect a number of equipment connected to the second network through the second connection section (**col. 3, lines 1-30**);

an information collection section (**Figure 3, step s305, col. 3, lines 24-33**) configured to collect information on the equipment connected to the second network through the second connection section (**col. 3, lines 1-33**);

a detection section (**col. 3, lines 20-25**) configured to detect a change caused in either the number detected by the quantity detection section or the information collected by the information collection section (**col. 3, lines 39-48**);

a set membership assignment section (**col. 3, lines 5-30**) configured to assign, when the detection section detects a change in the number of the information, a set membership to each equipment connected to the second network, the set membership being valid when a virtual connection on the first network is established (**col. 3, lines 5-30**).

As per **claim 13**, Hattig teaches the device further comprising a storage section configured to store the information collected by the information collection section (**Figure 3, step s305**) and the identification information generated by the assignment section in relation to each other (**col. 3, lines 39-48**); and a transfer section configured to receive data supplied from the first network through the first connection section (**col. 3, lines 23-29 and col. 4, lines 24-49**), specify the equipment connected to the second network from identification information included

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in the data in accordance with contents stored in the storage section, and transmit the data to the specified equipment (col. 3, lines 23-29 and col. 4, lines 24-49).

As per claim 14, Hattig teaches a network bridging method for making data transmission between first and second networks different from each other, comprising: a first step for detecting a number of equipment connected to the second network; a second step for collecting information on the equipment connected to the second network; a third step for detecting a change caused in either the number detected in the first step or the information collected in the second step; a fourth step for assigning, when a change in the number or the information is detected in the third step, a set membership to each equipment connected to the second network, the set membership being valid when a virtual connection on the first network is established; a fifth step for generating as many identification information as the number of the equipment detected in the first step and assigning the identification information to the respective equipment connected to the second network, in accordance with the set membership assigned in the fourth step; a sixth step for requiring reconstruction for adding the equipment connected to the second network to the first network, while the identification information is assigned to the respective equipment connected to the second network in the fifth step; and a seventh step for transmitting the identification information to the first network, while the reconstruction is required in the sixth step.

As per claim 15, Hattig teaches the method further comprising an eighth step for storing the information collected in the second step and the identification information generated in the

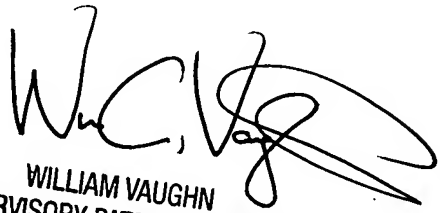
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fifth step in relation to each other; and a ninth step for receiving data supplied from the first network, specifying the equipment connected to the second network from identification information included in the data in accordance with contents stored in the eighth step, and transmitting the data to the specified equipment (col. 3, lines 23-29, col. 3, lines 39-48 and col. 4, lines 24-49).

CONCLUSION

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


WILLIAM VAUGHN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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